File No. 275
1891.

Collection No.

Mysore Residency

30/1/47

Pros. Serial Nos. 1–4

Subject.

Application for a building grant towards the construction of a new house for the Indian medical

Previous References.

7418/85

Later References.

MGIPC—FP—52DCFMis.—(1783)—27-5-25—39,000.

RESIDENT'S OFFICE.

OFFICE NOTE.

FILE No. 275 OF 1891

In letter No. 191/91 dated the 11th July 1891, the Honorary Secretary to the Friend-in-need Society asks that the Govt of India may be moved to sanction a grant from public funds towards the construction of a new poor house.

2. It is represented that the present building is open to grave sanitary objections & unsuited for several other purposes. The municipality have granted a suitable site valued at Rs 9,000/-

The cost of the proposed buildings is stated to be Rs 48,000/- It is stated that Rs 11,000/- is available & a further sum of Rs 17,000/- is expected from the sale of the present buildings.

3. The Managing Committee ask for a grant equivalent to that raised by the society. According to their statement they will have in hand Rs 28,000 & the amount they further require is Rs 20,000/, but why they [illegible] is not apparent.

4 The Committee apparently does not want to apply to the Municipality for a grant, because they think it has already been liberal in making over a building site. However it is said that the Municipality will provide a building at its cost for the Giddalutne Ward for which the cost probably is put down at Rs 4145- As Rs 1500/- is available from public contributions on this account, the sum to be spent by Municipality may not exceed Rs 2645/- for the Giddalutne Ward.

5 As regards the site for the new Poor House, it would seem that the plot of ground near the Rly. Station was sanctioned by the Board in their meeting dated 11th October 1889. On the 15th July 1889, the Members were unanimously of opinion that this plot should not be granted for the Poor House, but within the space of three months, this opinion was changed on what grounds Office does not know! ...

Cl. A. file 26/89

Cl. A. 3. file 295/1889

6 This plot was selected for the construction of a Dt. Jail & Lock up for

the L & N Station of Bangalore, Intelligence
question was shelved pending the
appointment of a P.W. officer as
Advising Engineer to the L & N Station.
Please see Major Merrill's note of 4-12-85
in office note in file No. 301 of 1885.

7 The question may some day crop
up again, and it may be difficult
to obtain a suitable site for the
jail building if the plot of ground
near the Railway Station be made
over to the Friend-in-need Society.

8 This plot (which was originally
granted to the Madras Railway Company
but was relinquished as not
being required) was made over to
the Municipality in 1878 to be disposed
of in such manner as the board
might think advisable, subject to
the approval & confirmation of the
local administration. To the
grant of the land by the municipality
to the Friend-in-need Society is
not complete till the Resident has
confirmed the grant.

S. No. 3/a File 183/89

9 As regards the application for a grant, it is submitted that there is no provision in the current year's budget of the Assigned Tract from which any grant on this account can be made. Application must therefore be made to the Govt of India, but the necessary sufficient information has not been furnished. The Govt of India will like to see the plan & estimate of the proposed building, and to know what amount is actually in hand with the Managing Committee.

10 It may be mentioned that a building grant of Rs 2266-5-0 was made in 1857 for the construction of the present building, & that the Society is in receipt of monthly grants from Govt & the Station Municipality of Rs 450 & 50 respectively.

Al No 6 - File 418/85

Assigned Tract revenue

Submitted for favour of orders.

M.S.
17-7-91

11 Before asking the G. of India for a grant in aid of this Institution the question of the site should be first decided. The Municipality have granted plot No. 482 for the poor House, but this grant for this has yet to be confirmed by the Residt.

The Presidt in his letter No. 251. of the 15. Inst. has strongly opposed the site designed for such a purpose. The Commr. agreed with the Presidt when, on three months afterwards voted for the site being given to the Society (by. I recollect right Colonel Hill was present at the meeting of the Commrs. so that

Ref to file 295/89.

did not like to say, No.

12 As regards the grant:-
It is very doubtful if the
G. of India will sanction
the grant of so large a
sum as ~~Rs~~ 28000/- If they
do, it must come out of
the revenues of the C &
M. Chiefship. As long as
the question of a water
supply is pending, funds
will not be available
for any other purpose.

13. I think the Hon: Secy:
might be told that the
Resident quite sympathises
with the effort made for
ameliorating the condition
of the destitute poor
in Bangalore but that
to ask the G. of India
for any aid at present.

(Continuation of Note or Precis)

would be utterly useless;
that the request could be
renewed a year hence
when the funds of the
institution might be in
a better condition; &
that meanwhile plans
& estimates might be
drawn up ~~[illegible]~~
as cheaply as possible
Subject to Sir Rob's orders.

28. VII-91

Rest. the above note can be sent
you as enquired: if you would
like to look at the plans which are built by
Lancaster Town: the Water
works, Government Offices calling
for money Town Council asking
Govt for money for a Poor house

HL 4/8

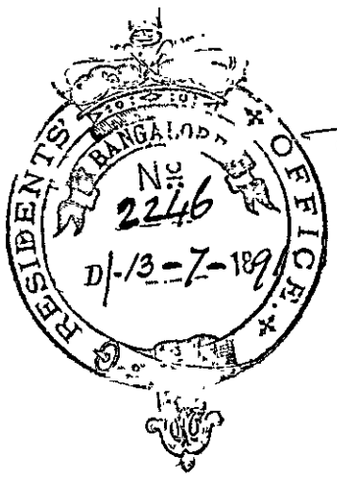
Before the project can be submitted to the Govt of India
Plans of the buildings must be prepared and a precise statement
of the Funds available. There will be ample time to elaborate
the scheme as an application for money at present would have
little chance of success at present. If economy in the native states is
to be practised, would not the abolition of the pageants and simplification of
the Court be better than the expedients suggested in this simplification HL 5/8/91

Seems
At the last meeting of the Com: it was decided
to defer consideration of the proposal
in question: the question
was not formally settled
Sir Robt present
HL 11/7/91

& Lucie Smith's Report
as below
HL 4-8-91

No 191/91.

Friend-in-Need Society
Bangalore 11th July 1891



From

Colonel W. Stibb
Honorary Secretary
Friend-in-Need Society

To

The Assistant
to the Resident in Mysore
Bangalore.

Sir,

In submitting Extract from the Proceedings of the General Committee of the Friend-in-Need Society, I have the honor to request that you will be good enough to lay the resolution passed by them before the Resident for his favorable consideration, and in view to the Government of India being moved to sanction a grant from public funds towards the construction of the New Poor House, the need for which is abundantly set forth in the printed appeal which accompanies. It will be seen that the General Committee

have towards the construction of the new Poor House, estimated to cost Rs. 48,000; a sum of Rs 11,000 available, and expect a further sum of Rs 17,000 by the sale of the present buildings. A Vagrants Home such as at Madras forms part of the project, also Workshops, the cost of which has been in Madras borne entirely by Government: therefore it may be fairly asked that a sum equivalent to that raised by the Society may be granted by Government towards the new buildings, which are intended to provide in a suitable manner for a much needed want.

The Municipality have been liberal enough to grant a suitable site to the Society, the value of which is estimated at Rs. 9000; and on the removal of the Institution will be further asked to provide a building for the Girdlestone Ward for Incurables which is under their charge and will cost not less than Rs 4145, towards which a sum of Rs 1500 is available from

public contributions.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your Most Obedient Servant,

Will — Colonel,
Honorary Secretary,
Friend-in-Need Society.

Extract from the Proceedings of a Quarterly Meeting of the General Committee of the "Friend-in-Need" Society held at the Mayo Hall on Thursday the 18th June 1891.

III. Consideration of steps to be taken in the matter of obtaining Government aid towards the construction of the New Poor House.

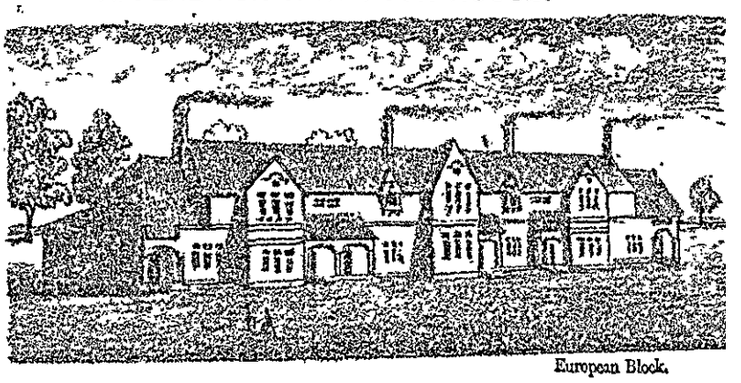
As the Society has in hand Rs 11,000 for the new buildings, and anticipate Rs 17,000 by the sale of the present buildings, the Committee resolve to ask the President to move the Government for a grant in aid of an equivalent sum.

(True Extract)

---------- Colonel
Honorary Secretary
"Friend-in-Need" Society.

BANGALORE FRIEND-IN-NEED SOCIETY,

APPEAL FOR NEW POOR HOUSE.



European Block.

The Committee of the Friend-in-Need Society desire to appeal to the public for aid in the erection of a Home for the destitute, for which an excellent site near to the Railway Station has been granted by the Municipality; and in so doing the Committee deem it right to state explicitly the grounds upon which their application is based.

(*a*) The situation of the present Poor House in a crowded locality on Thimmiah Road, Saint John's Hill, is open to grave objection on sanitary grounds, as the Institution is surrounded by a number of Native houses over which no direct control can be exercised. There is cause therefore to apprehend that serious loss of life would ensue in the event of an epidemic.

(*b*) The buildings are in the form of a quadrangle divided into two wards for male and female inmates respectively, and the accommodation thus afforded is too limited to admit of any separation between respectable paupers and those of bad character. It is not surprising therefore that most of the worthy and respectable poor positively refuse to take advantage of the shelter offered, although it is well known that the superintendence is good, and that every care is taken respecting the diet, clothing and health of the inmates.

(*c*) Moreover the character of the work provided (*viz.*, stone-breaking and raggi-grinding), for which alone there is scope in the present premises, falls short of the aim of the Society. The Committee feel bound to train all capable inmates of the Institution to some useful and remunerative employment, such as might be provided for men and boys in a proper workshop, furnished with all necessary tools, and under the supervision of an efficient foreman, and for women in a good laundry.

(*d*) But the most serious defect in the present system is the necessity which it involves of having recourse to out-door relief, and that to a very considerable extent. The Committee believe that this form of aid is calculated to foster habits of improvidence in those classes whom they most desire to benefit. Thus although each case is fully investigated before an order for relief is given, and is afterwards subjected to careful and constant scrutiny by periodical visits from the Overseer, and by examination before a Revision Committee, it is found impracticable to effectually check idleness, begging and immorality on the part of out-door recipients, who are surrounded by evil associations.

(*e*) Further, the Committee recognize that a broad line of demarcation should be drawn between those whose poverty is the result of their own vice and improvidence, and those who are in distress from the feebleness of old age or some unavoidable affliction which has rendered them incapable of earning a livelihood. They feel that in the latter case every effort should be made to improve the condition and add to the comfort of the indigent sufferers, while for the former class accommodation should be provided in a Casual Ward, and in return for each meal allowed a full tale of labour should be exacted. For such persons the breaking of stones and chopping of firewood will probably prove the most suitable forms of employment.

(*f*) The Committee desire to avoid the mistake of ignoring the social requirements of the Native inmates of the Institution. The poorer classes of Natives are without exception accustomed to live in small huts. They naturally therefore feel miserable when lodged in extensive wards or dormitories, and debarred from the privilege of cooking their own food.

It is the object of the Society to give effect to these views in the new buildings.

i. The main building will consist of a spacious Committee room and office with Superintendent's quarters attached.

ii. At some distance apart the casual ward for vagrants will be built in a walled enclosure with a railing in front of the compound, and a wood-shed and offices behind.

iii. Two blocks of buildings resembling English almshouses, of which a sketch is given above, will be provided for aged or infirm Europeans and Eurasians of known good character. These blocks will also contain rooms for the Overseer and Matron respectively.

iv. For Native paupers it is proposed to build at first, two rows of neat huts—the one for caste and the other for non-caste Natives—resembling in some degree the lines of a Native Infantry Regiment, as per sketch given below.

N. B.—To avoid misapprehension it should be stated that the quarters proposed for Natives and Eurasians respectively, will correspond to the Monegar Choultry and the Home for the Destitute in Madras. It is not intended to put in hand the buildings which would be required for the accommodation of those who are now out-door recipients of relief, until sufficient funds are forth-coming.

v. Workshops, a laundry and a granary will be built at the back of the other premises.

vi. Separate provision will be made hereafter for the Girdlestone Ward for Incurables.

In accordance with the understanding upon which the site was granted for this purpose, the construction of the buildings will be as neat and elegant as is consistent with economy and general usefulness. Suitable designs have been kindly prepared by Mr. O'Shaughnessy, Retired Executive Engineer of the Madras P. W. D. To avoid subsequent expenditure on frequent repairs, all the premises must be thoroughly substantial. The cost will amount to not less than Rs. 48,000, towards which Rs. 17,000 may be expected to be realised by sale of the present Poor House, and Rs. 8,000 are available from the in-

vested funds of the Society. Substantial aid may also be hoped for from Government. The balance will have to be subscribed by the public to whom the Committee earnestly appeal. They also look to the special liberality of generous donors to provide eventually the additional accommodation needed for the reception of those persons, who are now dependent upon out-door relief. The sum of Rs. 500 will cover the cost of a Native tenement, and Rs. 1,000 will erect a home for Europeans or Eurasians. It is intended that such houses, being built by private subscriptions should be named after their donors.

It is believed that any excess of applications for relief consequent upon the improvement of the accommodation will be checked, and an effectual safe-guard against abuse of the charity will be furnished, by the arrangements respecting work to be done by the inmates and the coarse but wholesome diet provided.

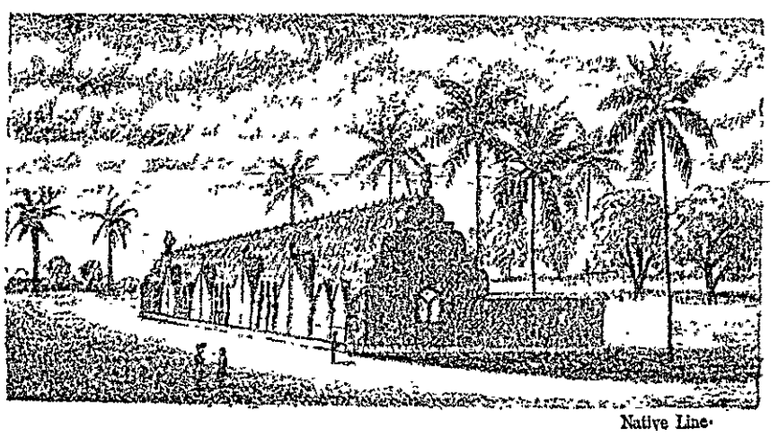
As the Institution is of a purely unsectarian character, and as no poor person is ever debarred by any caste or creed from participating in its benefits, this appeal is confidently made to all classes of the community. Even the military section of the population will, it is hoped, give something to this object, perhaps in the form of one day's pay, or by the establishment of wards to be named after the several corps, as no regiment ever removes from Bangalore without leaving its quota of poor behind.

Being assured that there is no truer beneficence than that of promoting the permanent well-being of the destitute, the Committee cannot doubt that a prompt and gratifying response will be made to this appeal. But while looking for liberal donations from those who have the means to give, they depend mainly on the contributions of the many rather than those of the few, and will therefore gratefully receive and acknowledge the smallest sums that may be offered.

"Blessed is he that considereth the poor: the Lord will deliver him in the day of evil." Psalm XLI. 1.

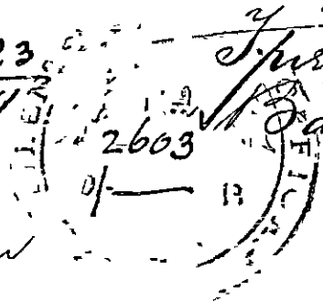
By order of the General Committee,

Honorary Secretary, Friend-in-Need Society.



Native Line.

No 223
91



From Friend-in-Need Society
Bangalore 3rd August 1891.

Colonel W. Hill,
Honorary Secretary,
Friend-in-Need Society

To

The Assistant
to the Resident
in Mysore

Sir,

In continuation of letter No 191/91 of the 11th July 1891 applying for a grant-in-aid from Government towards the proposed new Poor House, I have the honor to submit for the Resident's information plans and estimates of the buildings which have been approved of by the Committee, and request the favor of an early reply in view to the matter being laid before the General Committee at their next Meeting on the 12th inst.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your Most Obed. Servt.

W Hill Colonel
Honorary Secretary
Friend-in-Need Society

RESIDENT'S OFFICE.

Serial No. 2

[DRAFT.]—For approval.

B.O. Kisoro: plans & Estimates.

To

Dated 7. 8. *1891*.

Sir I am to acquaint

my dear Colonel

I have submitted your

letter & plans etc regarding

the new Post house & the

Residency.

The Treasury desire me

to say that before the subject

can be considered the Estimate

of the Building must be prepared

and some precise statement

of the Funds available must

be furnished and that

the question has also

to be dealt with whether

the Officers in any application

for money at present there

can have their money ba

lances with 2 Govt Offices W.

have better chances of recei

[illegible] decency me & [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [

No 237
91

Friend-in-Need Society
Bangalore 15th August 1891.

From

Colonel W. Hill
Secretary Friend-in-Need Society
Bangalore

To

The Assistant to the
Resident in Mysore
Bangalore.

Sir,

In reply to your demi-official letter of the 8th August 1891, I have the honor to forward Extract from the proceedings of the General Committee, and to request that the Resident be moved under the circumstances to request the sanction of the Government of India to provision being made in the next budget for a suitable grant towards the project which is greatly needed for the reasons set forth at length in the printed appeal.

D.2

It will be seen that my successor General Fischer, who is a talented Engineer, is to be entrusted with the revision of the plans, plans and estimates.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your Most Obedt Servant,

Colonel,
Secretary Friend-in-Need Society

* This cannot be done, under the rules, unless the proposed expenditure has already been sanctioned, or is expected to be sanctioned to come in course of payment.
The revised plans, plans and estimates may be awaited.
H. 21-8-91

Extract from the Proceedings of the Quarterly Meeting of the General Committee of the Friend-in-Need Society, held at the Mayo Hall on Thursday the 13th August 1891.—

Proposition

Read demi-official letter from the Assistant Resident in respect to the proposed construction of a new Poor House.

Resolution

In respect to the remarks made by the Resident the Committee resolve that the newly appointed Secretary be asked to look over the plans and estimates in view to making such reduction as may be feasible having regard to the promise made to the Municipality that no unsightly buildings will be constructed on the fine site which they have been good enough to give. The Committee point out that their funds admit of a commencement being made, and they are confident that the Government of India would view the matter of a grant-in-aid favorably, independent of other requirements of the Station, as it is for a Charitable object on account of which special provision is always made in the Budget.

/True Extract/

J. Gill Colonel
Honorary Secretary F. I. N. Society